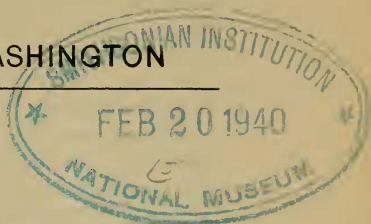


PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



A NEW RACE OF THE SPOTTED TINAMOU, *NOTHURA*
MACULOSA, FROM THE PARAGUAYAN CHACO.

BY H. B. CONOVER.

A few months ago I received a shipment of birds from the northern Paraguayan Chaco. Among them was a series of *Nothura* belonging to the *maculosa* complex.¹ On comparison these Chaco specimens were found to be quite distinct from a series of typical *maculosa* from southern Paraguay (Villa Rica) and also from a series taken in the highlands of Bolivia (Cochabamba) which were assumed to be typical of *boliviana* Salvadori. Through the kindness of Dr. C. E. Hellmayr and Dr. W. H. Osgood, who were in London at different times, a pair of the Chaco and a pair of the Bolivian birds were compared with the type and three other Bolivian specimens (collected by Bridges) in the British Museum of Natural History. As had previously been assumed, the specimens from the highlands of Bolivia proved to be typical of *boliviana*. The birds from the Chaco, however, can not be assigned to any of the other known forms of *maculosa* and it becomes necessary to describe them.

Nothura maculosa chacoensis, new subspecies.

Type.—From 265 kilometers west of Puerto Casado, Paraguayan Chaco; No. 12,501, adult male, in the Conover Collection, Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago; collected September 16, 1936, by Alberto Schulze.

Characters.—Differs from typical *maculosa* by being much grayer, less rufescent buff on the upper parts and much lighter buff (less rufescent) below. The dark streakings on the lower neck and chest are also much lighter and narrower and the flanks and sides less heavily barred. From *boliviana* it differs by having the upper parts darker, less rusty, more

¹Besides the specimens of the *maculosa* group, there was received from the same locality a series of *Nothura boraquira*. It is evident, therefore, that *boraquira* is not conspecific with *maculosa*.

grayish buff; the lower breast and belly buffier (not creamy white); the flanks barred (immaculate in *boliviana*); and the lower neck and chest with dark longitudinal streaks, not dark spots or cross bars and with no rusty blotches. From *salvadorii* it differs by having the upper parts more grayish buff (less reddish brown); the under parts much more ochraceous buff; the flanks more heavily barred; and the longitudinal streaks on the lower neck and chest darker, more sharply defined, and with no rusty tinge. From *nigroguttata* (Buenas Aires, Cordoba) it is grayer, less buffy above; more buffy, less yellowish below; the flanks are less broadly barred; and the dark markings on the lower neck and chest much narrower.

Description of type.—Top of head dark brown, finely vermiculated with paler brown; throat white; sides of head, superciliary stripe and neck all around yellowish buff with narrow dark brown shaft streaks to each feather; feathers of mantle, back, scapulars and upper tail coverts thickly but unevenly vermiculated with chocolate brown, with a broad edge of dirty grayish buff, inside of which is generally a longitudinal streak of buffy white; upper wing coverts barred with dark brown and buff; primaries dark brown, the outer web broadly notched with buffy white, and the inner web broadly barred with fulvous buff; secondaries barred with dark brown and fulvous buff; under wing coverts and axillaries ochraceous buff; chest fulvous buff, each feather with a narrow dark brown shaft streak; rest of under parts light ochraceous buff, the flanks with narrow bars of dull brown. Wing (flat) 123; culmen (exposed) 20; tarsus 35; middle toe (without claw) 21 mm.

Range.—Probably from the Bolivian Chaco south through the Paraguayan Chaco to Argentine.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED.

Nothura maculosa maculosa.—26: Paraguay (Villa Rica, 10; Horqueta, 6); Argentine (Santa Ana, Misiones, 3); Uruguay (Mercedes, Soriano, 4; San Vicente, Rocha, 3).

Nothura maculosa boliviana.—8: Bolivia (Poja, Cochabamba, 1; Tiraque, Cochabamba, 3; Vacas, Cochabamba, 2; Coloni, Cochabamba, 1; Tarija, 1).

Nothura maculosa salvadorii.—24: Argentine (Arenal, Salta, 2 (including type); Rosario de Lerma, Salta, 3; Tucuman, 1; Tapea, Tucuman, 1; Lavalle, Santiago del Estero, 3; Angaco Sud, San Juan, 6; Tunuyan, Mendoza, 8).

Nothura maculosa nigroguttata.—22: Argentine (Collon Cura, Neuquen, 2; Henderson, Buenos Aires, 1; Alvarez Yonte, Buenos Aires, 2; Papin, near Bonafacio, Buenos Aires, 3; Torrecita, Buenos Aires, 1; Cambaceres, Buenos Aires, 3; Los Ingleses, Buenos Aires, 1; Noetinger, Cordoba, 9).

Nothura maculosa darwini?—1: Argentine (Chos Malal, Neuquen, 1).

Nothura maculosa chacoensis.—13: Paraguay (265 kilometers west of Puerto Casado, 8 ad., 1 im.; Puerto Pinasco, 1); Argentine (Riacho Pilaga, Kilometer 182, Formosa, 2; Las Palmas, Chaco, 1).

Remarks.—The specimens from Puerto Pinasco, Paraguayan Chaco and Kilometer 182, Formosa Territory and Las Palmas, Argentine Chaco, are not exactly typical of *chacoensis* as represented by the series from the type

locality. The upper parts are more heavily blotched with blackish and purer gray (less buffy). The under parts of the Puerto Pinasco example are typical of the new race, but the other three have much broader and more conspicuous dark shaft streaks to the feathers of the chest. On the other hand, all of them are much grayer, less buffy than *nigroguttata* and much less rufescent than *maculosa*.

Some of the Horqueta specimens tend rather strongly toward *chacoensis*. Of the six examples examined four are like typical *maculosa* from Villa Rica, except for being slightly lighter on the under side. The other two specimens are lighter on the upper parts tending toward *chacoensis* but with the dark markings more pronounced. On the under parts, however, they are typical of the new race, being very light buff with narrow dark shaft markings to the feathers of the lower neck and chest.

Uruguayan specimens have been listed under the nominate race as being closer to typical *maculosa* than to *nigroguttata*. There is so much variation even in the three specimens from San Vicente, Rocha, the type locality, that *savannarum* Wetmore does not seem to be a good race. In fact among these three specimens is one that is like typical *maculosa* (Villa Rica), a second like some specimens of *nigroguttata* from the province of Buenas Aires, and a third, lighter still, resembling specimens from Cordoba. The four specimens from Mercedes, however, are very like Paraguayan specimens.

I am indebted to Dr. Herbert Friedmann of the National Museum and to Mr. J. T. Zimmer of the American Museum for the loan of additional material.